
 with Slap Ratchet 38 preferably occurs after mounting strap 28 is secured to the inside of baseplate 13, as described hereinabove.

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Please rewrite the paragraph at beginning at page 8, line 28 as shown.

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 As described with reference to ankle section 18, toe section 22 is likewise secured to baseplate 13 by a mounting strap 48, attached to the inside of the baseplate, and is releasably secured over boot 11 by an engagement member 50 and toe strap 52, the toe strap being secured to the outer side of the baseplate. When secured to the baseplate 13, toe section 22 may be generally parallel to the bottom of baseplate 13. In the present embodiment, the structure and function of mounting strap 48 is similar to mounting strap 28, provided, however, that mounting strap 48 is preferably shorter in length than strap 28 and is secured to the inner sidewall of baseplate 13 adjacent the ball of a rider's foot. As shown in Fig. 1, a clip 54, such as the LEVERAGE TOE™ clip, available from Burton Snowboards of Burlington, VT, is preferably mounted to the outer side 56 of toe section 22 for adjustable engagement with a serrated strap 58 extending from ratchet buckle 60. Ratchet buckle 60 may preferably be utilized with clip 54 because the buckle allows the user to more tightly adjust or "crank down" binding 12 along the toe region, or front of a rider's foot, thus providing a more secure and comfortable fit than by using a traditional leverage clip alone. In the present embodiment, ratchet buckle 60 is mounted to one end of toe strap 52, the toe strap being fastened at a second end to the outer sidewall of baseplate 13, adjacent the ball of the rider's foot, by any suitable conventional fastener, for example a nut and bolt. Alternately, a leverage toe clip and serrated strap may be utilized as illustrated in Fig. 7, with toe section 22 preferably extending over the first through fifth metatarsal bones in this embodiment.


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In the Claims:

Please rewrite claims 71-73 and 84 as follows.

Applicants have enclosed separate sheets indicating the amendments to the claims, with deletions bracketed and additions underlined.

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 71. The binding strap according to claim 70, wherein the binding includes an engagement strap adapted to be mounted to the binding base at a first section of the engagement